

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSC-05

PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01

SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

OIC-02 /127 W

----- 084192

O 021320Z DEC 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2102

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ACTION STR

ATTENTION STARKEY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD MTN

SUBJECT: GROUP AGRICULTURE SCENARIO

REFS: (A) STATE 292097; (B) MTN GENEVA 9411 AND 9497

1. LUYTEN (ACCOMPANIED BY ADINOLFI) CALLED ON ME DECEMBER 2 ABOUT AG SCENARIO. CULBERT AND KOENIG WERE PRESENT. LUYTEN BEGAN BY CONFIRMING WHAT HE HAD TOLD ME ORALLY YESTERDAY, NAMELY THAT HE HAD ENCOUNTERED SOME DIFFICULTIES WITH MEMBER STATES ABOUT A FEW POINTS IN THE SCENARIO (REF B) WHICH I HAD TOLD HIM ORALLY U.S. COULD LIVE WITH (PER REF A). LUYTEN AID HE HAD ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES ON THREE POINTS.

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2. IN REGARD TO EC OBJECTIONS ON "COMMUNICATED TO ALL

GROUPS," LUYTEN STATED THAT THE COMMISSION'S RATIONALE STEMS FROM OUR PREVIOUS REJECTION OF LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN TO THE EFFECT THAT GROUP AGRICULTURE WAS "SEIZED" WITH THE REPORT. THEY FEEL WE ARE TRYING TO TURN THE TABLES ON THEM BY USE OF THE TERM "COMMUNICATED" (WHICH THEY SEE AS ALMOST THE EQUIVALENT OF "SEIZED") IN SUCH A WAY AS TO DEPRIVE GROUP AGRICULTURE OF JURISDICTION AND VEST EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION IN THE FUNCTIONAL GROUPS.

3. SINCE OUR INTERESTS ARE PROJECTED SO LONG AS THE PHYSICAL REPORTS THEMSELVES GET INTO THE HANDS OF THE FUNCTIONAL GROUPS, I SUGGESTED TO LUYTEN THAT WE SUBSTITUTE THE WORD "CIRCULATED" FOR "COMMUNICATED." THIS WOULD RELIEVE THE EC CONCERN IN PARAGRAPH 2 (FAR-FETCHED THOUGH IT IS) AND AT THE SAME TIME MEET OUR OBJECTIVES. HE PROMISED TO TRY TO SELL IT IN BRUSSELS.

4. WITH RESPECT TO THE ORAL STATEMENT ON THE TRIF, LUYTEN WAS INSISTENT THAT THIS COULD PROVOKE A BREAK-DOWN. THERE IS SOME VALIDITY TO EC CONCERN THAT, IF WE AND THE EC MAKE STATEMENTS ON THE SUBJECT, OTHER DELEGATIONS CAN HARDLY BE PREVENTED FROM DOING SO, AND THERE WOULD CONSEQUENTLY BE A GREATER RISK OF UNRAVELING. HOWEVER, I POINTED OUT TO LUYTEN THAT, BECAUSE OF U.S. RELUCTANCE TO ACCEPT THE TRIF COMPROMISE, WE COULD NOT BE EXPECTED SIMPLY TO ACQUIESCE AT THIS LATE DATE WITHOUT SOMETHING MORE. SO, IN AN EFFORT TO FIND A FURTHER WAY TO COVER THE U.S. POSITION, WE AGREED TO HAVE PATTERSON, AS CHAIRMAN, INTRODUCE THE SUBJECT OF THE TRIF WITH A STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THERE HAVE BEEN DIFFERENCES OF VIEWS BETWEEN DELEGATIONS AS TO THE NEED FOR TAKING UP THE TRIF AND THAT NO ONE IS COMPROMISING THEIR WELL-KNOWN POSITIONS ON THIS SUBJECT BUT THAT I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE AS A WAY TO MOVE THE WORK ALONG. HE WOULD THEN PROPOSE THE AGREED TRIF COMPROMISE LANGUAGE. IT SEEMS TO ME THIS MEETS OUR NEEDS AND OUGHT TO BE AGREED BY THE U.S. LUYTEN IS GONG TO TRY AND SELL IT IN BRUSSELS.

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5. SCENARIO FOR NTM PARENT GROUP WITH RESPECT TO TRIF. TEXT REPORTED REF B HAD NOT ACTUALLY BEEN TIED DOWN DURING OUR MEETING NOVEMBER 24 AND WHEN THEY SAW OUR TEXT IN WRITING WITH THE WORD "DECIDES" IN IT, THE MEMBER STATES FELT THIS WAS PULLING THE BLANKET OVER TOO FAR ON THE U.S. SIDE OF BED AND THEY ASKED US TO DELETE IT AND REFORMULATE THE SCENARIO AS FOLLOWS:

"THE CHAIRMAN (OF THE NTM PARENT GROUP)
WOULD PROPOSE THAT THE GROUP NOTE THE CONCLUSIONS
OF GROUP AGRICULTURE AND, THERE BEING NO
OBJECTIONS, THE GROUP INVITES THE GATT SECRE-
TARIAT TO INCLUDE IN THE TRIF THE RELEVANT
INFORMATION CONCERNING ALL PRODUCTS."

THIS LOOKS OK TO ME.

6. LUYTEN SAID HE WOULD TAKE BACK ABOVE POINTS
TO HIS MEMBER STATES LATER TODAY AND TRY TO GET
APPROVAL WITHIN 24 HOURS. HE REQUESTED WE ENDEAVOR
TO GET WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF THESE CHANGES AS QUICKLY
AS POSSIBLE SO THAT THIIIS SCENARIO CAN MOVE PROMPTLY
INTO 7 PLUS 7 WITH THE IDEA OF TRYING TO KEEP TO THE
SCHEDULE OF GROUP AGRICULTURE ON DECEMBER 9 AND NTM
PARENT GROUP SOME DAY DURING WEEK DECEMBER 13. WE SAID
WE WOULD DO OUR BEST.

7. COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS. I THINK THESE CHANGES
PRESERVE U.S. POSITION. PLEASE CABLE APPROVAL ASAP.
WALKER

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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